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Diana T Fritz 08/28/2006 11:32:10 AM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

Cable  
Text:

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 04239

SIPDIS  
CXABU:

ACTION: PAO  
INFO: ECON POL AMB DCM

DISSEMINATION: PAO  
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: ADCM:HOLSIN-WINDECKE  
DRAFTED: PAO:AHOSHAN  
CLEARED: PAO:WWROBERTSON

VZCZCADI683  
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZM RUEHFR RHRMDAB  
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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1919  
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0967  
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT  
RHWSMRC/MCF01 SACCS USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//

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SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP; NEA/PPD; NEA/RA; INR/R/MR; PA;  
INR/NESA; INR/B; IIP/G/NEA-SA  
WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE; NSC  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA  
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD  
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR ZEYA  
LONDON PASS TO MOC

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [TC](#)  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: NONPROLIFERATION/DEMOCRACY IN THE  
MIDDLE EAST

¶1. SUMMARY: A UAE COLUMNIST WONDERS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF ARABS  
SUCCEED IN ACQUIRING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE NOTES THAT ARAB  
CAPITALS WOULD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY OTHER ARABS IF THEY HAD  
POSSESSED NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE CONCLUDES THAT IT IS THE WISDOM OF  
GOD THAT PLACED NUCLEAR WEAPONS OUT OF THE REACH OF ARABS' HANDS.  
END SUMMARY.

¶2. Abdullah Rasheed wrote in, Abu Dhabi-Based Arabic Daily "Al  
Ittihad," 10/3 (circulation 65,000):

"The most important question raised regarding the nuclear  
aspirations of certain countries, namely Iran and North Korea, is  
not who does not have the right to possess nuclear weapons, but  
who has the right to possess nuclear weapons? Answering this  
question would lead us to a number of side questions such as, are  
there sane nations and insane ones? And what would happen if  
such a weapon became available to the hands of insane people?  
Because we, Arabs, are possessed with the conspiracy theory, and  
we always consider ourselves victims of imperialist, Zionist and  
Western conspiring, I will focus on the possibility of us, Arabs,  
acquiring such a dangerous weapon."

¶3. ". The question that I want to ask is, what would happen if  
an Arab nation, God forbid, possesses a nuclear weapon? I

believe the answer is clear. If a Lebanese faction had a nuclear power, that nation would have been wiped from the map forever. And if a Yemeni group possessed a nuclear weapon, Sanna or Aden would have become like Hiroshima or Nagasaki on the 16th of August 1945."

¶4. "HOWEVER, IF SADDAM AND KHOMEINI OR ONE OF THEM HAD NUCLEAR POWER, TWO THIRDS OF IRAQI AND IRANIAN CITIES WOULD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, AND IF SADDAM SUCCEEDED IN ACQUIRING NUCLEAR POWER FOLLOWING THE DESTRUCTION OF HIS NUCLEAR REACTOR IN THE MID 1980S, ALL GCC CAPITALS WOULD HAVE BEEN BURNED AND DESTROYED..IT IS THE WISDOM OF GOD THAT PLACED NUCLEAR WEAPONS OUT OF REACH OF OUR HANDS."

¶5. Under the headline " What is Rice cooking up?", English daily "Gulf News", 10/3 (circulation 95,000):

"Listening to an American secretary of state talk about democracy in the Middle East, considering Washington's record in overthrowing democratically elected regimes, is a touch nauseating, especially when set against a background of thinly-veiled hints of action against Iran and Syria that come almost daily from some American official. Washington in 2003 was not looking for a reason to go to war, it was looking for an excuse. What is Rice looking for now? More military action in the region, coupling democracy with an air strike on some Iraqi town or Gaza?"

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